FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 25, 2002 CONTACT: Milissa Reierson

Information Officer (615)741-2257 (O) (615)599-3070 (H)

NASHVILLE –Tennessee's March unemployment rate of 5.6 percent, up two-tenths of a percentage point over the month, was released on April 18. County unemployment rates released today showed that 48 county rates decreased, 41 increased and six remained the same over the month.

Knox County at 2.8 percent, down from 2.9 percent, registered the state's lowest county unemployment rate, and also the lowest metropolitan county unemployment rate. Scott County at 15.3 percent, up from 15.0 percent, reported the state's highest jobless rate.

Hamilton County reported a 4.1 percent rate, up from 3.7 percent. Davidson County also reported a 4.1 percent rate, up from 3.8 percent, while Shelby County reported a 5.4 percent rate, up from 5.3 percent.

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NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter "<a href="http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures." http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures." http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures."

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